

**Size:** 2,987 acres  
**Mission:** Conducted pilot training  
**HRS Score:** NA  
**IAG Status:** Federal Facility Agreement signed in 1987  
**Contaminants:** VOCs, petroleum/oil/lubricants, metals, pesticides, and herbicides  
**Media Affected:** Groundwater and soil  
**Funding to Date:** \$67.6 million  
**Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year):** \$67.4 million (FY2050)  
**Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites:** FY1999



*Lubbock, Texas*

## Restoration Background

In July 1995, the BRAC Commission recommended closure of Reese Air Force Base, which is used for pilot training and related activities. The installation closed in September 1997.

Preliminary Assessments and Site Inspections conducted from FY84 through FY88 identified 13 sites, including landfills, surface impoundments, underground storage tanks (USTs), sludge spreading areas, industrial drain lines, and fire training areas. To date, 30 USTs have been removed from the installation during Interim Remedial Actions (IRAs). Of the 14 remaining USTs, 10 are regulated.

In FY93, the installation began an IRA in which an alternative source of drinking water was provided to off-base residences and businesses whose well water was contaminated. Studies determined that Reese Air Force Base was the source of trichloroethene (TCE) contamination in the sole-source aquifer for the region. An Environmental Working Group was formed in FY93 to expedite the restoration process. The group includes representatives of the installation, EPA, state regulatory agencies, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the primary environmental contractor at the installation.

In FY95, the installation reached an agreement with the State of Texas to implement an IRA for controlling a plume of TCE-contaminated groundwater. Under the IRA, the base installed a groundwater extraction and treatment system with an air stripper to treat groundwater contaminated with TCE and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs). A pilot-scale study indicated that soil vapor extraction (SVE) was a practicable means of treating soil contaminated with petroleum/oil/lubricants. A Restoration Advisory Board was formed.

In FY96, the installation undertook a RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) to determine the source and extent of contamination. The installation also began a corrective measures study to address contaminated media identified during the RFI and completed construction of the SVE system. An Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) and an Environmental Impact Survey were initiated. A BRAC cleanup team (BCT) was established.

In FY97, the installation completed the RFI initiated in FY96 and began RFIs at 20 solid waste management units (SWMUs). In addition, wells were installed at the boundary of the installation, the EBS and the Environmental Impact Survey were completed, and the RCRA permit for closure of Picnic Lake was modified.

## FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation continued investigations at 20 SWMUs. RCRA Permit Closure Reports were submitted to the regulators for Picnic Lake and Golf Course Lake. The industrial drain line was cleaned, and 14 USTs were removed. The design of the composite cap at the Southwest Landfill began. The Tower Area pump-and-treat expansion is under way, including the real estate easement process for off-base wells and pipeline.

The base is negotiating with EPA on the requirements of the current EPA RCRA 7003 Order requiring off-base sampling of domestic wells. The BCT continued its successful real-time decision-making process. The BCT has expedited cleanup to make Reese the fastest cleanup in the Air Force Base Conversion Agency (within 2 years of closure) and has produced a cost avoidance of over \$1 million.

## Plan of Action

- Construct off-base water lines in contaminated areas to reduce long-term liabilities and costs
- Complete construction of off-base pump-and-treat systems at the Tower Area and the Southwest Landfill
- Complete all investigations and submit reports to the regulatory agencies
- Remove all remaining USTs, aboveground storage tanks, and oil-water separators
- Remove lead-contaminated soil at the small-arms firing range
- Construct a composite cap at the Southwest Landfill
- Complete all real estate easements
- Continue to use the BCT to expedite cleanup actions
- Close the RCRA permit at Picnic Lake and Golf Course Lake

## SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR

